

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

### **A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFICATION AND PRESENTATION OF STATISTICAL USAGE DATA FOR MESSAGING SYSTEMS**

An apparatus and method for facilitating communication through a messaging system by  
5 identifying times when a user of the system is most likely to be available for a messaging  
session. The apparatus comprises an event monitor, a database, a usage processor, and a usage  
indicator. The event monitor detects messaging system events and records information about  
these events in the database. The usage processor retrieves the recorded information from the  
database and uses the information to compile statistical usage data for a given user. The usage  
10 indicator then displays the statistical usage data in a summary format to an end user. In the  
preferred embodiment, the event monitor, usage processor, and usage indicators are all  
implemented as computer instructions. These three components may be executed independently  
of each other, or they may be integrated into a single computer program. Similarly, each  
component may operate independently or be integrated into an existing messaging system.

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